



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Agricultural  
Marketing  
Service

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**NOTICE TO THE TRADE  
For Offers Submitted in the  
Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES)**

Last week, several Fruit and Vegetable vendors encountered problems entering constraints in DEBES while using the web browser software "Netscape".

In the analysis, it was determined that there was incompatibility issues between DEBES and the versions of Netscape higher than 6.0. Until this problem is resolved, we are notifying vendors who wish to use Netscape as their web browser software to use a version of Netscape between 4.07 and 6.0. Currently, those vendors who use Internet Explorer 5.0 or above as their web browser software are not affected.

To determine the version and cipher strength you currently have installed on your software, please select from the menu bar "**Help/About Netscape**". Netscape provides customers the ability to download the earlier software versions of Netscape from their web site: <http://home.netscape.com>. Product Archives of earlier versions can be found under the Browser Central tool. If downloading an earlier version of Netscape, please select the version for 128 bit Strong Encryption\*.

To determine the version and cipher strength you currently have installed on your software, please select from the menu bar "**Help/About Internet Explorer**". Internet Explorer versions can be download from Microsoft at <http://www.microsoft.com>. The version selected must be capable of handling 128-bit encryption.

Please contact Henrietta Cooke or Sue Olson at (202) 720-2650 if you have questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duane Williams", written over a horizontal line.

Duane Williams  
Contracting Officer  
Livestock and Seed Program